

MEETING OF PEE DEE UNION.

The fifth annual meeting of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Union of Pee Dee Presbytery, was held with the W. M. S. of Marion (S. C.) Church, October 21-22.

The cordiality of the people of Marion, and the cosiness of the little church, combined to create an atmosphere of good fellowship, which had much to do with making this meeting the best—as the last should always be.

The presence of forty representatives from the various societies, more than double the number at any previous meeting, brought joy to the hearts of those who worked and prayed for a large attendance. But better even than this was the genuine enthusiasm manifested, the increasing readiness to enter actively into the work of the Union, an earnest spirit of prayer, and the unbroken harmony which has characterized the organization from its incipency.

The President's report showed a gratifying growth along all lines. In the first year of its existence, the total gifts of societies enrolled amounted to \$316, or about \$2.28 per member; the number of societies has more than doubled and for the past year their contributions amounted to \$1,350, or more than \$4 per member. Two societies gave more than \$10 per member last year. For these things and the blessings of Christian fellowship and the privilege of working for our Master's Kingdom, we humbly give thanks, as we take courage and press forward to greater effort. To Him alone be the glory.

The treasurer's report showed that the dues, ten cents per member, have furnished ample funds for the current expenses of the Union, including traveling expenses of a Presbyterian visitor, with neat balance which is sent each year to some Mission cause. Missions being understood to be a comprehensive term, including both Home and Foreign. This year a gift was sent Mr. Scott for his Mexican work in Texas, and Mr. Little received a liberal contribution for his work among the negroes.

Reports from all officers showed faithful performance of duty.

Society reports were heard with much interest and to mutual advantage.

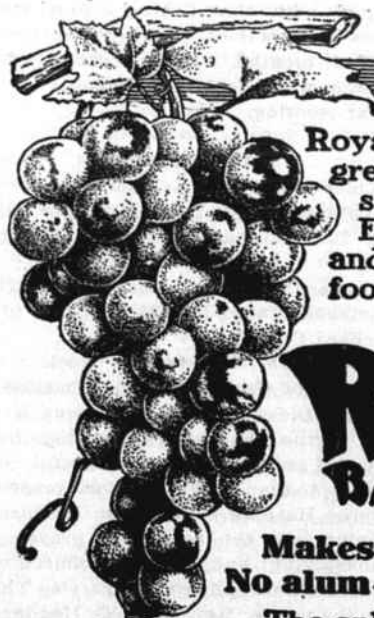
Conferences were held on Young People's Work, Mission Study and Society Methods, and under the last, the Share Plan and Forward Movement for Women's Societies were presented.

Many Mission Study Classes reported and to these is attributed in large measure the intelligent, working interest, which is replacing that spasmodic zeal, which characterized much missionary endeavor.

Mrs. M. B. John, of Bennettsville, the efficient secretary for Y. P. W. was appointed Presbyterian visitor for the year with instructions to organize Young People's Societies wherever possible.

Mrs. H. B. Price, of Japan, a beloved member of the Union, gave a delightful talk on "Missions in the Bible."

The Rev. F. D. Viehe, of Bennettsville, conducted the opening exercises, in the



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absence of the pastor, and spoke on the Importance of Prayer in Christian Work, after which he outlined some methods of work for Young People's and Women's Societies, which were practical and suggestive. Mr. Viehe's enthusiasm was inspiring.

The missionary speakers were the Rev. John Little, of the Presbyterian Colored Missions, of Louisville, Ky., and the Rev. L. C. Vass, of Luebo, Africa. The illustrated lectures delivered by these gentlemen at the public sessions Thursday and Friday nights were vividly interesting and the Union was extremely fortunate in having the two phases of Mission Work among the negroes presented in masterly style.

Hopewell Church was chosen as the next place of meeting and the following officers elected:

President, Mrs. T. Fraser James, Darlington; first vice-president, Mrs. A. E. Spencer, Claussen; second vice-president, Mrs. E. M. Dibble, Marion; recording secretary, Mrs. J. L. Perlinsins, Darlington; corresponding secretary, Miss Emma Grigsby, Cheraw; treasurer, Miss Amelia Howard, Claussen; secretary literary and missionary study, Miss Emma Salley, Marion; secretary Y. P. W., Mrs. M. B. John, Bennettsville.

THE TORCH-BEARER.

A voice came ringing down the way, "Room! room for the Torch-bearer! room for the keeper of the gates of Tomorrow! room!"

"Ah! yes," I said. "It is he, the great sage, who has lightened the world-shadows this many a year. Who should bear the torch but he?"

I looked, and the sage passed, his arms folded on his breast, his calm eyes bent forward, seeing many things; but no torch was in his hand.

And still the cry came ringing down the world's way, "Room for the Torch-bearer!

make way! make way for the keeper of the gates of Tomorrow!"

"Ah!" I said. "It will be the mighty leader, then; he who so long has marshaled our hearts, and led us whithersoever he would with a wave of his hand. Hail to him, hail to the Master of Armies!"

But as I looked, the master passed, and his truncheon hung low by his side, and his eyes looked downward, remembering; and no torch was in his hand.

'Yet still, as I marveled, came that great cry ringing down the world's way, and now it sounded loud in my ears:

"Room! room! make way, give place! the Torch-bearer comes. Make way for the keeper of the gates of God!"

And once more I looked.

Ah! bare and dusty were her feet, the little woman; and she went bowed, and stumbled on the rough stones, for the great torch hung heavy in her hand, and heavy by the babe on her arm; but he sat there as on a throne, and laughed and leaped as he sat, and clutched the living torch and shook it, flinging the blaze abroad, and the world-way lightened before him.—Laura E. Richards, in *The Silver Crown*.

Through scourge and thorn God sent
His Son to bless.

The Mission

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